

# California GARDEN

FORTY-NINTH YEAR

WINTER 1958

VOLUME 49 NO. 4



Jerusalem Pine — Upper entrance to Presidio Park

Photograph by George E. Lindsay

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Subject: Pruning trees and shrubs

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Floral Building, Balboa Park  
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Subject: Bulbs

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# California Garden

FORTY-NINTH YEAR

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## *Clivias, Aristocrats Of The Garden*

CHARLOTTE M. HOAK

*Garden Consultant, S. Pasadena, California*

If you are a connoisseur of fine flowers, you will certainly grow the aristocrat of the Amaryllis family, — the clivia. It is our outstanding shade plant. You can hardly find a garden too shady for it. In its native habitat, it is called Kafir-lily. It was named for a Duchess of Northumberland and a member of the Clive family. The name is often mispronounced because a short "i" is used, instead of a long one. If you want to be correct, you should always say "cly'-vi-a".

J. G. Baker says there are three species of clivias, but Charles Hervey Grey, the famous English authority, gives four. As his book is now out of print, and difficult to get, I am quoting in this article what he says about clivias, for the many who would like to know more about this splendid evergreen bulbous plant.

"Clivia Lindley is a small genus, exclusively South African. The bulb is rudimentary; the radical fibers very stout, fleshy, more or less fastigiate; the leaves many, broadly ligulate, distichous, persistent; the stem stout, acipitous; the spathe-valves several, lanceolate, acute, imbricate, unequal, membranous, green; the flowers many, umbellate, funnel-shaped, on stout pedicels, bright-orange-yellow; the tube short; the segments obtuse, much longer than the tube, the outer segments noticeably narrower; the stamens in-

dorsifixed, versatile; the ovary globose, trilocular; the style long, filiform, basally tricuspid; the fruit a very decorative, globose, red berry; the seeds large, globose. Its members are all very handsome plants, and flourish in a cool house. They should be quite hardy in sheltered gardens in the south and west of Great Britain, but flower in our winter. Many fine hybrids have been raised by Mr. Faffill at Kew and by nurserymen in Great Britain and on continent of Europe. They are outside my province, but I record one, to which a specific name has been given, in the following list of species. They are all easily raised from seed, and produce flowering plants in about three years. They should be grown in good loam, and require plenty of moisture during growth.

"*C. miniata*, (Hooker) Regel. A native of Natal, growing at an elevation of nearly three thousand feet near Pietermaritzburg. The leaves are oblanceolate-elliptic, bright-green, eighteen to twenty-four inches long; the stem rather shorter than the leaves; the umbel ten-to-twenty-flowered; the spathe-valves several, linear-lanceolate, up to two inches long; the flowers erect, widely campanulate, scarlet, with a yellow throat; the tube short, widely funnel-shaped; the segments two to three inches long, the outer segments oblanceolate, the inner segments oblong; the

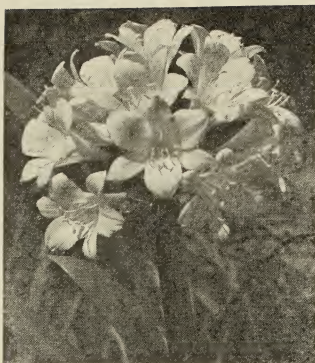
stamens shorter than the segments; the filaments and anthers yellow; the anthers small; the ovary small, globose, shining, glabrous, dark-green; the style reaching the tips of the segments; the berries large, very brilliant. It flowers in winter, and is very handsome and easily increased from seed or by division. Many admirable garden seedlings have been introduced into commerce.

"*C. nobilis*, Lindley. Found in the Bathurst Division, and northwards through Natal to the Saddleback Range near Barberton, where it attains an elevation of nearly five thousand feet. The leaves are ligulate, very obtuse, marginally scabrous, bright-green, twelve to eighteen inches long; the stem about twelve inches in length; the umbel thirty- to - sixty - flowered; the spathe-valves lanceolate, acute, under one inch to nearly two inches long; the pedicels about one inch in length; the flowers arcuate, orange-red green-tipped; the tube short, slenderly funnel-shaped; the segments narrowly oblanceolate, over two inches in length; the stamens barely exerted; the filaments and anthers yellow; the anthers very small; the ovary small, globose, dark-green; the style over-topping the stamens; the berries large. It is a handsome plant, as easily grown as the other members of the genus.

"*C. cyrtanthiflorus*, hort. (*Imantophyllum cyrtanthiflorum*,) a hybrid (*C. nobilis* x *C. miniata*) raised, I believe, by Messrs. Van Houtte. It is a very vigorous plant with many-flowered umbel of slenderly funnel-shaped, arcuate, orange-red flowers; the outer segments half as broad as the inner; the stamens yellow, exserted, overtopped by the style. It is well-named, as the flowers are very similar to those of *Cyrtanthus*, a closely allied genus. It is a very good cool house plant, flowering in mid-winter.

"*C. gardenii*, Hooker. A native of Natal and the eastern Transvaal. The leaves are bright-green, long-acuminate, obtuse, up to thirty inches long; the stem twelve to eighteen inches in length; the umbel ten - to - twenty - flowered; the spathe-valves linear-lanceolate, one to one-and-a-half inches long; the pedicels about as long as the spathe-valves; the flowers rather slenderly funnel-shaped, arcuate, orange-red, green-tipped; the tube under half an inch long; the segments oblanceolate, obtuse, one to one-and-a-half inches in length; the stamens as long as the segments; the anthers small oblong, yellow; the ovary small, globose; the style eventually much overtopping the perianth; the berries sub-orbicular, bright-red. It flowers in mid-winter. It is a scarce plant in nature and in cultivation, although safely established and well-grown in the temperate house at Kew. Seed germinates so easily that it is difficult to understand why such a decorative plant is so seldom seen."

Now, about this fine plant as it grows here. The *Clivia miniata*, mentioned by Grey, is the species which came to us early from South Africa, and is the one most common in our California gardens. It is distinguished by narrower leaves than any of the hybrids. You often find huge clumps in our old gardens here in Southern California.



Photo—Courtesy Oakhurst Gardens, Arcadia, California

### HYBRID CLIVIA

The flowers are of a salmon-orange color, with yellow centers.

Clivias have been much hybridized. There are *C. miniata* hybrids in the trade which are similar to the type, but have flowers of deeper color, and wider leaves. Belgian and English hybrids are grown and sold by many of our local firms. For many years, Howard and Smith, of Montebello, have carried the English hybrids. Those from Belgium represent a highwater mark. They have very wide leaves, which make them ornamental, even when not in bloom. The flowers are very large, well formed, of deep red-orange color, and are supported by a heavy stiff stem. In the San Diego area there are Zimmerman hybrids, which stand for the best that have been produced in America. They are characterized by a very wide variation in coloring, running from light salmon-orange, through rich orange to reddish-orange. At present you cannot get these separate colors, but must purchase them unmarked. I remember the many visits I paid to the Zimmerman nursery in Carlsbad years ago, before he became ill. It seems very sad that his fine hybrids should meet the tragic fate of neglect. Mr. James Giridlian, of Oakhurst Gardens, still carries a stock of these superior hybrids.

When planted in the open, clivias do well in a deeply shaded location. Many of the old gardens in Oak Knoll still have massive clumps of these plants growing in the shade of oaks or other shrubbery. Because of their liking for shade, clivias will flower indoors, in the winter. In the open, clivias will stand eight degrees of frost. The foliage may be slightly damaged, but the plant soon recovers from freezing. The leaves and roots are very long-lived. You should grow them in rich heavy soil. Pot new plants up in the smallest pot possible, for they bloom best when rootbound. Do not be concerned if the roots get exposed on the top of the pot. Transplant to a larger container only when the plant pushes itself out or breaks the pot. The best time to repot is after flowering. Water well during the growing season, less in winter. Clivias need good feeding, and benefit by the application of liquid manure every three or four months. They may be grown from seed, but it takes from three to five years to get plants of blooming size. You must have considerable patience to bring on these seedlings, but you will find them worthwhile. I know of several amateurs who take a great deal of pride in their own fine seedlings.

As they flower in late winter and early spring, clivias lend a vivid color note to the outdoor scene. The big hybrids are not only beautiful when they are in bloom, but also when they are merely showing their broad evergreen leaves. The flowers are followed by trusses of orange berries, which make them trebly decorative. For all these virtues, clivias are highly prized by both flower arrangers and gardeners.

Editor's note: A new "Amaryllis Manuel," by Dr. Hamilton Traub, of La Jolla, has just been published by The Macmillan Co., New York.



# A Paean Of Gratitude

BY HENRY LIPPITT

A trip to the mountains in our back country during the latter part of the November to April rainy season is not merely an excursion. It is a pilgrimage.

Five minutes north from downtown San Diego through beautiful Balboa Park along a narrow canyon of wooded hillsides, Cabrillo freeway reaches Mission Valley. The Valley is a broad expanse of deep, rich alluvial loam deposited by the San Diego River over the centuries.

Swinging east on Highway 80 puts the flat, fertile fields of well-cultivated truck gardens on the left. It is a pleasant change from city streets. Breathe deeply of freshly ploughed earth and tender green growth. Relax in its peacefulness.

For miles the road closely parallels the valley wall on the right. Freshly washed by the long anticipated and life-giving winter rains, the steep slope sparkles in the early morning sunshine. It is perfectly placed. Facing north and rising abruptly, the canyon wall, shaded from the heat of the southern sun, revels in every drop of water it receives.

Winter rain is God's gift to Southern California. As water runs down the valley walls native growth responds with grateful delight. The dense, abundant growth of Lemonade Berry *Rhus integrifolia*, red berried Toyon, and other large native bushes in the gullies where the water settles and provides more moisture, is a charming contrast to the low, open groundcover atop the sloping ridges.

However, it is the overall picture of the soft, lush mass of dark green hillsides which thrills your heart after the dry, brittle, brown

appearance through the long, hot summer and fall.

The compulsory change of pace while passing through the village of Fletcher Hills is suddenly compensated for by the abrupt burst of view down into El Cajon Valley and up to the ring of mountains beyond. It is startling and spectacular. The dignified and distinctive head and shoulders of Mount Cuyamaca lie straight ahead in the distance. Rugged and precipitous El Capitan, slightly to the left, prompts you to break into praise:

"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help.

My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth."

The grip on the wheel is firm and the head erect as you roll along the highway to higher elevations.

At the top of the incline previous to dropping down into Glenview comes another quick surprise. The highway now seems to be blocked by El Capitan dead ahead.

At the last moment the road swings to the right, avoids the obstacle and continues its capricious climb. Hills become mountains. The scenery is more and more arresting. The slanting arroyos of the sloping hillsides become broader and deeper and the moisture more ample.

You approach the timberlands of the mountains where the rainfall of 24 inches or so is two or more times the eleven inch average of the seacoast. Trees mark the change. The blessings of abundant moisture are everywhere.

As Alpine is approached the growth of oaks in the arroyos is impressive. Soon even the mea-

dows support huge oaks and the country is more densely wooded. The air is rarified and stimulating. On all sides are steep hills or deep valleys. The road winds sharply around hillsides occasionally cut into the very crust of the mountain.

There is a thrill to driving and an excitement in the sharp drop-offs on the offside. Views lengthen and are more varied. Looking back, as the curves permit, are range after range of mountains dropping off below to the coast from whence you came.

On the bridge over the headwaters of the Sweetwater River just west of Descanso stop and turn off the motor. Water is visible in the stream bed below. It tumbles over the rocks with the countless glitter of white water everywhere apparent. The gentle sound of its bubbling and gurgling is pleasing to the ears after the long, dry summer.

Approaching your destination you look down ahead into a sheltered plain rimmed with mountains. To the left the long range of the stately Lagunas rises another two thousand feet. It is indeed "A happy valley of murmuring pines four thousand feet above care."

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# Holiday Arrangements Go Native

ALICE M. GREER

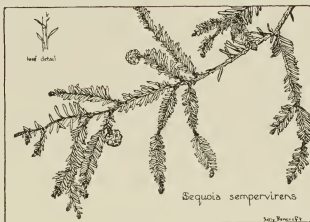
I "went native" when making holiday flower compositions. No, I am not speaking idiomatically—tempting as a "native" state might have been during our last October heatwave. I mean that I used only plant material native to California, and found that I had an embarrassment of riches. You, also, can experience this embarrassment. Try it.

Of course, the material must be gathered from private property with the consent of the owners, or else an officer of the law, enforcing Conservation Ordinance No. 341, will be on your heels.

By the way; a 1956 publication, "Native Plants for California Gardens", by Lee W. Lenz, of the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Gardens, is a classic. It will help you to "go native" in your garden; just reading it will give you much pleasure.

Here I go with my old favorite, the Redwood, *Sequoia sempervirens*. Sprays of the foliage, alone or combined with other material or other colors, work so easily into swags, wreaths, garlands, compositions of any type, and package decor. The attractive miniature cones are "tops" for wreath making. I gather them by the shoe-box full, and keep them many years. They can be glued into the wreath, or fastened with darning cotton or other soft thread or wire, in a close compact fashion, or in a Della Robbia design. Small wreaths formed entirely of the cones are delightful to place at the base of your candlesticks, or to hang on your candelabra.

By all means don't overlook the small golden-brown sprays that fall from the tree. Gather them, preferably when they are slightly



damp after a night's dew, and store them for future use. Golden brown foliage wreaths are much to the fore. People will inquire how you "browned" the foliage, and how you curved the stems. Nature, not a spray-bottle, browned them. I have an easy homemade method for curving the stems. Place a circular hat-box inside another circular hat-box of larger diameter, perhaps 4 or 5 inches larger. While the sprays are only slightly damp — you can steam them if necessary — place them around the outside of the smaller box, between it and the inside of the larger box. You can pile up as many sprays as you desire, and you can use several boxes, one inside the other. Store the boxes uncovered, where the air will reach them, and when you are ready to make your arrangements, you'll have beautifully curved sprays.

Other native conifers that we have in the garden do their share in adding to our decor: pines spruces, junipers, (their berries are lovely), and incense cedars.

I suppose that during the holidays many of you will desire to color cones or foliage, and to add a touch of snow or sparkle. We say, have fun at such a time, but please, oh please, stay closely to Nature's choice of color; keep

away from the grotesque and the bizarre; consider good design the fundamental principle in your work; be meticulous about your color harmony. You can have all the fun in the world, and indulge your desire for originality, yet follow the art principles.

Now here comes another native "must" from the garden, Lemonade-berry, *Rhus integrifolia*. Its glossy holly-like foliage of fine keeping quality, serves the same function as that of evergreens. A slight red tinge on the stems makes it perfect to combine this time of year with Christmas balls — red, violet, blue, bronze — all dull finish, or with red cabbage, apples, red onions, pomegranates, russet pears, coconut, pineapple guavas and eggplant. Use a red-purple container or mat. In the same category and calling for a similar color scheme is the Holly-leaved cherry, *Prunus ilicifolia*, whose fruit is also decorative. Stubby ends of its foliage make exceptionally handsome wreaths.

Our native California holly, or Toyon, *Heteromeles arbutifolia*, which I hope you grow in the garden, is much dearer to my heart in the open than it is when used in compositions. The berries are apt to droop their heads and to shatter; the foliage needs drastic thinning. True, the berries are a delightful quality of red. They are happiest when massed in short, compact-headed bunches — wiring helps — in a fruit or vegetable composition.

Matilija poppy, *Romneya coulteri*, will do something for you in the summer that you can use in the winter; send forth a bloom, shed its petals and stamens, and



leave a long stiff stem, supporting a nice ball that you can hang upside down to dry for holiday use. Dip or spray white or gold, if you are so inclined. Combine with the fish-net float balls, colored glass balls, desert wood or variegated Christmas balls — flat finish —, of one color. I use them with a few peacock feathers in an old blue Chinese container placed on a lacquer stand, and they are stunning. A piece of free-flowing, gray desert wood fills in at the base and one Chinese blue Christmas ball of mammoth size centers the attention.

St. Catherine's lace, *Erigeron giganteum*, lives up to its name — a true giant in favor; lacy, airy in form, gray foliage that retains its color; blossom heads flat, tan, rust, or brown. Combine, in a copper container with sprays of persimmons and bunches of green grapes, fastened on sticks so they will cascade downward; or spray white and use in crystal or Chinese-blue container with a few limes and a small eggplant.

Turkish rugging, *Chorizanthe staccoides*, is in a class of its own. It has a delightfully compact form; is red-brown, tipped with miniature golden-blossoms that, however, do not persist, but are in no way necessary for its beauty. I combined two clumps of this exceedingly attractive native with a rather rotund, low, striated red-brown and yellow rock of rough texture, and a red-brown and gray robed Chinese figure, three red-wood cones at his feet, and placed it all on a brown, circular, bakelite plaque centering a round din-

ing table, where it creates a feeling of rhythmic calm and simplicity. For Thanksgiving I shall substitute three little kumquats for the cones and use a brown candle, three inches square, off to one side. Incidentally, this composition is a perfect example of an analogous color scheme. The Turkish rugging will retain its original color and rigidity for ten years. It can be thinned, made as airy as a breath and sprayed white for holiday time, but its natural form and color are the most handsome. It is good in fruit and/or vegetable compositions.

Native buckwheat, *Erigeron grande*, var. *rubescens*, is in the same class as the Turkish rugging. It has as much height and upward movement as the Turkish rugging has the earth-clinging feeling.

One of the loveliest things that ever came into my hands was a boxfull of the dried seedpods of our native iris, the little *Iris douglasiana*. A friend brought them to me from her mountain cabin site at Lake Arrowhead. Every stem was beautifully arched; every little head was an open triplex holding the yellow seeds in a tan sheath. I used a mahogany-brown carved madonna from Sweden; placed her on a self-colored pedestal; used a cerulean background and undermat; arranged the tan seedpods in a Gothic window design encircling the figure. On each side-front was a miniature wooden candalaria, also Swedish, holding seven blue candles. All of the material in the composition was in correct scale. It was placed at eye level in a space free from distract-

ing elements. If you are interested in these native iris, Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Gardens, Claremont, California, can help you locate them.

Let me say here that it is very important to avoid setting up a composition near anything else that might clash with it or compete for attention. Also consider carefully the level at which the composition will be viewed,—eye-level, below or above. If you slip on these two points, the whole effect can be lost.

Now from the small to the large. You may not like cactus candy, you may or may not grow prickly-pear tuna, *Opuntia engelmannii*, or Spineless tuna, *O. basilaris*, but you'll have to admit that large branches of these plants, bearing either magenta or yellow fruit, and suggesting free movement and strength, make very stunning compositions. Mount on a dully finished natural wood base (contrast of texture), using the largest size pin-point holders, (8 inches wide); brace with heavy manzanita roots or brown rocks if necessary, but make these a part of the design, not simply props. At Christmas time add balls with a soft luster, not shiny, all one color, and nearby group very low square, wood-green candles of three heights. The composition will have contrast by dominance of form, texture and line. If the cactus apples (fruit) fall, or you need additional ones for your design, fasten some to the succulent stems with toothpicks. Watch out for the dripping juice.

Manzanita, *Arctostaphylos man-*

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zanita; Desert holly, *Atriplex hymenelytra* (you're lucky if it is growing on your place); Oregon grape, *Mahonia aquifolium* and *M. nevini*; Dock, yes, a weed, but invaluable, especially if grown far inland, as in Salinas valley, where freedom from salt air allows it to turn a golden-brown, rather than a chocolate-brown; *Clematis lasiantha*, with its achenes bearing plumose tails two inches long, are all so familiar to the flower arranger that they speak for themselves.

A "weed" that should be grown in an out-of-the-way place in every garden here — not near the ocean, however, — is the California dandelion, *Troximon Agoseris grandiflora*. John Burroughs writes: "After its first blooming, comes its second and finer and more spiritual inflorescence, when its stalk, dropping its more earthly and carnal flower, shoots upward and is presently crowned by a globe of the most delicate and aerial texture. It is like the poet's dream, which succeeds his rank and golden youth. This globe is a fleet of a hundred fairy balloons, each one of which bears a seed which it is destined to drop far off from the parent source." \*

If gathered in the summer, just before they open, and allowed to expand in the house these downglobes will remain perfect for years. I store them in sand-filled coffee tins, being careful that the heads do not touch. If the stems

become weak or need directional control, run a fine wire up the hollow stem. I'm very fond of using them at Christmas time, cut in varying lengths and arranged in cascade design around a tall white madonna, before whom, at three different levels, kneel three white angels bearing candles. A suspicion of snow is at the base. The background and undermat are gold, blue, or black. Three very tall white cathedral candles in white block holders are placed far off on each side to complete the composition. There is nothing else within eyeshot.

Now lastly, for a few of the native succulents. The seed stalk of *Agave shawi*, if allowed to drip-dry for months, also stalks of *Yucca whipplei*, and *Y. schidigera* (*mohavensis*) make dramatic Christmas trees, either in natural tones — my favorite — or sprayed gold, white or silver. Decorate very simply with good design so as to accentuate, not confuse, the fine architecture of the dried stalk.

This material will last as permanent equipment for years. Every year gives additional beauty to the fine tones of the wood. The rosettes remain compact and closed. Soft gold or dull green balls (very few), in graduated sizes hung in stylized fashion; one huge ball at the base nestled amongst desert wood; a suspicion of yellow or green sand, all mounted on a redwood slab, with Chinese gold background and underbase, make

a composition that seems to satisfy a sense of fitness. For Thanksgiving, instead of the balls, use chrysanthemums or russet-shaded grapes wired on the midstem, and persimmons with grapes at the base. Sometimes I use various sizes of polished apples — only a few — and nothing else. Put a spotlight on the composition and you have a dramatic effect.

Chalk dudleya, *Dudleya pulverulenta*, has twelve-inch rosettes, and light green leaves covered with a dense coating of chalky-white powder. It is glorious to use in the fall on a black teakwood base with a few purple grapes, one lemon, one green-tinted persimmon and a large gray-robed Chinese figure. For Christmas the rosette is lovely combined with two dully finished pale pink balls and one graceful spray of Silver-dollar eucalyptus. Try it with two small lemon-yellow hibiscus, placed dramatically at two levels and angles. I am fond of using one or two of these rosettes on a large Chinese-red lacquer rectangular tray, combined with a large, twisted, hirsute squash of cylindrical form commonly obtained in Chinatown, and one pomegranate that is just turning color. This lovely dudleya is a bit tricky to handle as the white powder, which is its charm, sluffs off with rough treatment.

And so, here's for having fun, with natives, especially at holiday time.

\* From John Burroughs' essay, "Soil in Ferment" in his collection "America".



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# Literature Of The Rose

HELEN D. CARSWELL

Care and Culture of the rose is but a small part of the hobby of the genus *Rosa*. It has been said, "A HOBBY is something to go daffy over, to keep from going nuts over something else." Judging, testing, hybridizing, arranging and photographing roses, as well as travelling everywhere to see rose gardens, are some of the activities of a rosarian. Most of these people collect books on roses and "let's face it," a few even go daffy looking for rose books.

Once the top shelf of a bookcase held all my rose books. Shelf by shelf, they overflowed to other shelves, to night stands, yes, even to the floor. After building a new room, with a wall of adjustable bookshelves, the thought came, "How did all this start?"

Perhaps it all began with a trip to the Lester Rose Garden of Watonsville, when I found the delightful book, *MY FRIEND THE ROSE*, by the late *Francis E. Lester*, Mount Pleasant Press, Harrisburg, Penna., 1942. Dedicated, "To my wife Marjory, who has made my little garden," it tells the story of the "old fashioned" roses, so cherished in California gardens of the past. Out of print for a long time, a second edition is now available.

It was Marjory Lester who told me about *MODERN ROSES V*, *J. Horace McFarland Company*, in cooperation with the *American Rose Society*. Santa came early this year and brought me the current edition, just off the press. It gives a concise descriptive list of 7562 varieties and 333 species of roses. Of interest to all rose growers, it is a "must" for rose show work.

Seeing lists of these thousands of roses, interested me in *OLD ROSES*, by *Mrs. Frederick Love Heays*, The Macmillan Company, New York, 1935. Mrs. Keays relates an absorbing story of how, after she had rejuvenated the roses in a neglected garden, she made trips to other old gardens to collect the roses there, and to libraries, to study the identity of her subject. Alas, the book also has a chapter on libraries and rose books, which led me to join the American Rose Society.

In the Rose Society's Lending Library I read *A BOOK ABOUT ROSES*, by Dean Hole, of Rochester Cathedral, founder of the National Rose Society of England. The first edition was issued in the 1860s, and is probably "priceless," if it could be found. Its opening words have always been a challenge to rose growers: "He who would have beautiful roses in his garden, must have beautiful roses in his heart." My ninth edition (1884), and the notations in it, make me think how much I would have enjoyed the person who owned it before me. In the 1901 edition, the author, in his old age, reaffirms the "love of a garden, which never fails to make our lives happy." I bought this issue for the fine color plate of the old favorite hybrid tea *La France*, so often grown in the pioneer gardens of California.

One of the rarest, and perhaps most expensive rose books is *LES ROSES*, 1817, by P. J. Redoute, with text by the botanist, Thory, in three volumes. The rose plates were painted by Redoute from the roses in the Empress Josephine's

garden at Malmaison, near Paris. A 1954 edition, selected and introduced by *Eve Mannering*, Ariel Press, British Book Center, New York, has twenty-four color plates that present as wide a range as possible of the original subjects. Redoute prints, in 13 x 16 size, can be purchased from the American Rose Society.

European gardens of our own day are described in *A ROSE ODYSSEY*, by *J. H. Nicholas*, Doubleday, Doran and Company, Inc., New York, 1937. This rose travelogue is a result of the author's trips to Europe, as research director for Jackson and Perkins Co., of New York, for more than twenty years. Dr. Nicholas is best known to us as the hybridizer of the yellow hybrid tea rose, *Eclipse*. He has two other well known books, *THE ROSE MANUEL*, 1930, valuable for its full color charts, and *A YEAR IN THE ROSE GARDEN*, which covers every phase of rose growing, to help the small home owner and beginner.

There are many rose books for the new gardener. Helpful ones currently offered by the American Rose Society are: *WHAT EVERY*

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ROSE GROWER SHOULD KNOW; ROSES FOR EVERY GARDEN, by Dr. R. C. Allen; HOW TO GROW ROSES, by John Paul Edwards; and ANY-ONE CAN GROW ROSES, by Dr. Cynthia Westcott. Dr. Westcott warns the gardener, in one of her later books, "I did not say you could grow roses without working."

For the rose lover who just wants to leaf through a beautiful volume, ROSES OF THE WORLD IN COLOR, by J. Horace McFarland, has 283 superb color illustrations suggesting the proper treatment and location of many varieties.

It was Dr. McFarland's love of the Rose that inspired him to start the AMERICAN ROSE ANNUAL, in 1916, to deepen the love of the rose in America. The set now includes 43 volumes and makes a complete encyclopedia on The Rose. As in all forms of collecting, some items are hard to find; the 1916 and 1918 annuals are the rarest. Reading them year by year, gives one a picture of the Romance of the Rose in years past, a better understanding of the Joys the Rose can bring today, and the challenge it holds in the future. It is really wonderful to be DAFFY, —over Roses

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# Air-Layered Lychees

DOROTHY S. BEHREND

Lychees are juicy fruits, not nuts.

Most of us have purchased "lychee nuts" in Chinatown and eaten the dried, raisin-like flesh covering the comparatively large seeds. In contrast, it is a surprising and delightful experience to savor the pure white pulp of a ripe lychee which, in better varieties, has only a small seed. The dried fruit is as nothing, compared to the cherry-like flavor of the fresh fruit.

In general, the lychee tree has a spreading top, with an average height of 25 feet. It makes a beautiful evergreen "yard tree." Because it can stand more water than citrus trees, it is highly recommended for lawn planting. The oblong leaves, often bronze-tinted when young, turn green at maturity. Tiny flowers open in April, and begin to produce clusters of five or more mature fruits in early September. When fully ripened on the tree, the rough puckered skin of the juicy lychee is a bright red, which turns brown in a couple of days, if exposed to light, but lasts longer if kept in the dark. The tough skin peels off like that of a large grape. Trees from layered stock bear in three to five years.

*Litchi chinensis*, a native of China, as its botanical name indicates, is not a common commodity on the market, and will not be, for a long time to come. The large commercial plantings in Florida were fiercely damaged by the winter freezes of '57 and '58. Experience has taught the growers that they must now use orchard heaters to give the same protection that is necessary for citrus and avocados. Many areas in Southern California are suitable for growing these trees, which first fruited in Santa Barbara in 1914. They will stand

frosts, but not freezes; want good drainage; need an abundance of water; thrive on constant, periodic fertilization.

Lychee trees are usually propagated by the air-layer method (Marcot), a tedious task. The branches used for this procedure are usually one-half inch in diameter, with ascending tips. It takes from six months to a year to obtain the proper root growth, before the branch may be severed from the parent tree. To prevent shock, the rooted branches must be kept constantly moist by a "mister", which operates automatically. This aids the transpiration of moisture in the leaves. The length of time necessary for this "misting phase" of the Marcoting procedure depends entirely on weather conditions at the time the severing of the branches takes place. A drying Santa Ana wind can cause a great deal of damage, even with the "mister" in constant operation. With each dehydrating wind, the percentage of successful rootings is cut, and the cost of propagation rises.

The writer was privileged to participate in an actual severing and potting procedure last September, under the direction of her horticulture professor, Dr. Charles Swingle, and his wife. These two people have not spared themselves in the labor of propagating a very rare commodity. They have air-layered lychee branches of a superior fruiting variety, from a commercial planting in El Cajon.

The advantages of growing lychee trees are many. They have lasting evergreen beauty; a slow growth that needs only an occasional trimming; an exceptionally colorful fruiting period; and delectable fruits for eating.



# The Jerusalem Pine

CHAUNCY I. JERABEK  
The San Diego Tree Man

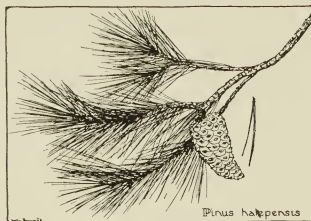
*Pinus halepensis* is commonly called the Aleppo or Jerusalem pine. This species is indigenous to Southern Europe, from Portugal to Palestine. In its native habitat along the rocky shores, it has a low spreading form, often contorted and picturesque.

Throughout the early Bible countries, there were several varieties of pines, but the largest and most plentiful were the Aleppos. They were an extensive source of timber for temples and other buildings: see I, Kings, 5:10, ("fir" is translated "pine", by botanical authorities) and Isaiah, 60:13. The wood was also used to make musical instruments.

The ancient Greeks planted many Aleppo pines around their temples, in fact they did not consider a landscape finished without one or more of this species nearby. Many magnificent specimens, fifty to sixty feet high, were to be seen all through this region. Here, in San Diego, the nature of the soil keeps them from exceeding 30 to 40 feet.

In the Pine family, *P. halepensis* is easy to identify, because its leaf sheath contains two, rarely three, needles,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches long. The cones are egg-shape, about 3 inches long. Flexible branches, light green foliage and attractive seed cones, make it a real favorite for Christmas.

As a specimen tree for a small garden, I would never recommend the Aleppo, although, in its early age, it presents a pleasing appearance. There are too many good specimens in San Diego to mention all, but here are some samples. 4764 Fifty-sixth St., 3706 Grim St., 2520 San Marcos, 3444 Louisiana, 2377 Juan, 4364 Witherby, 4633 Lenore Dr., 3750 Yosemite,



3602 Hyacinth Dr., 2286 Kearney, 4771 Del Mar Ave., 2625 Violet, 3368 Wisteria, and 3935 Centraloma Dr.

Here are a number of addresses where there are two or more of these pines: 230 Thirty-second, 3565 Seventh, 3221-3207 Forty-sixth, 3634 Jewell, 4652 Tivoli, 4542 Adair, 3452 Mountain View Dr., 1154 Reed, 5542 Linda Rosa Ave.

There are trees of this variety around San Diego that are at least fifty years old. Be sure you take a look at some of them before you decide to use this pine in your landscape. 4886 Vista, 4578 Iowa, 3435 Forty-second, 3694 W. Pennsylvania, 3610 Highland, 3666 Third, 2918 L, 3565 Seventh, 4209 Forty-sixth, 3611 Riviera Dr., 3334 Crown Point Dr., S.W. cor. Clove and Chatsworth Blvd., 3406 Whit-tier, 7425 High, 1506 Upas, 2955 Columbia, 1011 Tarento Dr., 6117 Avenida Cresta, 6169 Vista de la Mesa, 4423 Alhambra, cor. Zola and Locust, 5061 E. Mountain View Dr., 1409 Van Buren, 4758 Kenmore, 236 Nautilus, 927 Beryl and 5439 Beaumont Ave.

There is a spreading type at

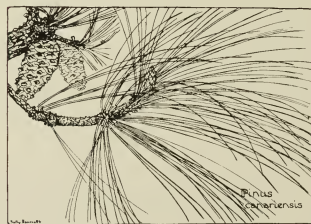
## EDITORIAL BOUQUETS

This magazine is proud to present a lead article by Charlotte M. Hoak, of Pasadena, who has recently been named "Miss Horticulture" at the Silver Jubilee of the Armstrong Nursery, for her contributions to horticulture over a long span of years. With an energy that belies her eighty-four years, she is active as a speaker, writer and garden consultant. Her botanical information is scholastic, practical, dependable and up-to-date, a rare combination today.

The Seedling Garden Club, newest activity of the S.D.F.A., under the direction of Mrs. Ernest Ambort, is so outstanding that a full discussion of its program will be given in an early issue.

The huge good-looking boxes of what we hope are long-lasting Rubber trees, that are now graceful, evergreen ornamentals on our downtown streets, are a real subject for rejoicing. Congratulations to the merchants and property owners of that area, who have taken this forward step in city beautification.

The Season's best wishes to our readers and to the authors and staff who have contributed so generously to these pages this past year. Happy growing to all in 1959!



5550 Electric, and a picturesque old one in the La Jolla Cove Park.

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# Mary A. Greer Memorial Library

For one who devoted a great part of her long life to the cause of conservation — which was instrumental in preserving the Torrey pines and the El Monte oaks for us — and to the ideal of more garden beauty by heading, for many years, the San Diego Floral Association, (once the only garden club here), and by staging spring and fall flower shows, from the time when they were the only ones in town, down through the last war, for such a one there could be no more appropriate memorial than a collection of books on the many phases of horticulture she advocated so ardently. Now there are new shelves in the Floral Building housing what will henceforth be known as the "Mary A. Greer Memorial Library."

The Floral Association has long owned some valuable volumes, especially the bound copies of Robinson's "Garden, Journal of Horticulture", donated by the late Kate O. Sessions. During the war all of our books were stored and cared for by Mrs. Greer, personally. They have been augmented since then by publisher's copies, and by gifts from either sources. In the last year valuable additions have been received from Katherine Archibald, Mary Sykes and the late Alfred Hottes, and more have been promised.

Dr. Ralph S. Roberts started a Library Fund for this new memorial with a gift of one hundred dollars. Alice M. Greer, the librarian, and her committee, expect to have an appropriate bookplate soon, and books are already in circulation. They may be taken out and returned at the time of the monthly meetings.

The first listing of books belonging to the library began in the spring number of this magazine. The following is a continuation of that list:

Home Gardener's Pronouncing Dictionary: Hottes, Alfred  
Horticulture: Davis, Kary  
Horticulturist's Rule Book: Bailey, Liberty H.  
House Plants: Hillhouse, Page  
How To Grow Roses: Edwards, John Paul  
How To Grow Roses: Pyle, Robert & McFarland  
How To Know Ferns: Parsons, Francis  
How To Know the Wild Flowers: Dana, William Starr  
How To Make a Flower Garden: Bailey, Liberty H.  
How To Make a Flower Garden: compilation  
How to Make a Vegetable Garden: Fullerton, Edith  
Humas and the Farmer: Sykes, Friend

Idyllists of the Country:

Ellwanger, George  
Indoor Gardening: Rexford, Eben  
Iris for Every Garden: Mitchell, Sydney  
Iris for the Little Garden: McKinney, Ella  
Irises: Pearson, R.  
An Island Garden: Thaxter, Celia

The Joyous Art of Gardening: Duncan, Francis

Landscape Architecture: Child, Stephen  
Landscaping Your Own Home: Dustan, Alice  
Lawns and Landscape Handbook: Thomas  
Les Plantes a Feuillage Colori: Rothschild  
Let's Make a Flower Garden: Rion, Hanna  
The Little Garden: King, Frances

A Manual of Gardening: Bailey, Liberty H.  
Manual of Weeds: Georgia, Ada  
Mosses and Lichens: Marshall, Nina  
My Garden's Goodnight: Stephens, Theo.  
Nature's Garden: Blancheb, Neltje

Old Spanish Missions of California: Elder, Paul  
Old-time Gardens: Earle, Alice  
Ornamental Shrubs: Apgar, Austin  
Our Ferns: Clute, Willard

Pages from a Gardener's Notebook: King, Frances  
Parsons on the Rose: Parsons, Samuel  
Plant Breeding: Bailey, Liberty H.  
Plant Culture: Oliver, George  
The Plant Doctor: Westcott, Cynthia  
Plant Ecology: Weaver, John & Clements, F.



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Plant Entomology: Fernald, H. T.  
 Plant Names: Lindsay  
 Plant Propagation: Kains, M. C.  
 Planting Lists for Southern California: Hoyt, Roland  
 Plants and Their Uses: Sargent, Frederick  
 Plants Useful for Man: Robbins, W. & Romalay, F.  
 Plants Without Flowers: Bastin, Harold  
 The Practical Flower Garden: Ely, Helena  
 Principals of Floriculture: White, Edward  
 Principals of Plant Culture: Bailey, Liberty H.  
 The Rose: Elwanger, H. B. B.  
 Rock Gardens and Alpine Plants: Correvon, Henry  
 Roses for All American Climates: Thomas, George  
 Science of Plant Life: Transeau, Edgar  
 Scrap Books:  
 Bulbs  
 Design  
 Gardening  
 General Gardens  
 Miscellaneous Articles  
 Plants  
 Rock Gardens  
 Roses  
 Special Gardens  
 Shrubs of Indiana: Deam, Charles  
 Soils: Bailey, Liberty H.  
 Soils and Men: U.S. Department of Agriculture  
 Spanish Gardens and Patios: Byne, Mildred and A.  
 Stone Mulching for the Garden: Rodale, J. T.  
 Studies in Gardening: Chitton, Brock A.  
 Succulents for Amateurs: Brown, Alice et al  
 Sunset Flower Garden Book: Lane Publishing Co.  
 Sunset Visual Garden Manual: Uppman, Elma  
 Sunset's Complete Garden Book: Merrifield

Ten New England Blossoms and Their Insect Visitors: Weed, Clarence  
 A Textbook of Botany: Coulter, John  
 The Garden Magazine: complete file of issues 1941 to 1948  
 Tree Book: Rogers, Julia  
 Trees and Shrubs of California Gardens: Saunders, Charles  
 Trees in Winter: Blakeslee, Albert  
 Trees of Santa Barbara: Van Renselaer, Maunsell  
 Use of National Forests: Pinshot, Clifford  
 Useful Wild Plants of the United States and Canada: Saunders, Charles  
 The Well Considered Garden: King, Frances  
 What Every Rose Grower Should Know: American Rose Society Publication  
 Wild Flowers in Britain: Grigsby, Geoffrey  
 The Wild Flowers of California: Parsons, Mary E. and Buck, Margaret  
 A Winter Picnic: Dickensen, J. and E. E.  
 With the Flowers and Trees of California: Saunders, Charles

Your City Garden: McKinney, Margaret & Seymour, E.  
 Your Southern California Garden: Lane Publishing Co.

## Hail And Farewell To An Expert Seedsman

Anton C. Zvolanek, a seedsman famous for his work with sweetpeas, died in his sleep at the age of 96 years, and was buried in Santa Barbara on October 13, 1958. As a young man he came to New Jersey from Czechoslovakia. Later he bought a tract of land in New Jersey and built greenhouses in which he grew flowers and nursery stock for the New York market. His genius as a hybridizer enabled him to develop a winter-flowering sweetpea which not only proved a success in the greenhouse, but also was the start of the new idea of growing sweetpeas outdoors in mild winter climates.

When he moved his growing fields to Lompoc, California, Mr. Zvolanek was able to develop many more colors in sweetpeas, and to stabilize the strain. For his achievements in floriculture he won many gold medals at expositions all over the world, including the San Diego Exposition, in 1915, where his work came to the attention of local enthusiasts. He had sold only in wholesale lots up to that time, but Miss Rainford persuaded him to let the Rainford Flower Shop here handle his new seeds, so many San Diegans are familiar with his varieties.

After his retirement, Mr. Zvolanek moved to Ojai, California. Besides the son in Lompoc, and one in New Jersey, he leaves his widow, who had made frequent visits to San Diego with him, and who had always assisted in every phase of his work. When we pick our bouquets of fragrant sweetpeas this winter, we will pause to remember the name of Anton Zvolanek, who gave us this beauty.

A.M.R.

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# Leaves From An Observer's Notebook

By MARION ALMY LIPPITT

Again Henry had been pressured into addressing Christmas cards. And again I heard him muttering about the eccentricities of my address book.

"Tell me once more why military rank takes precedence over the name of the individual."

"Well, some people like it that way. They find it easier to remember that Robert Allen is under the C's because he is a Colonel."

Henry shook his head despairingly. After addressing a dozen cards he removed them from the envelopes to write a personal greeting on each card. It was then that he discovered the cards were the same as I had sent last year.

Mystified, he questioned, "Is this left-over frugality? These cards are the same as last year's."

"And year before that," I volunteered.

"Come to think of it they are the same as three years ago." Henry looked frustrated. He laid down his pen with a finality that plainly said, "No explanation, no work."

"It's because I walk contrary to the world in general on the type of Christmas card I use," I said. "My cards carry the message of the greatest day in history. They carry one bar of music with the

words, 'Joy to the world, the Lord is come.' They cost five cents a piece," I added with a degree of smugness.

Henry's next remark was, "A four cent stamp on the envelope of a five cent card seems out of balance."

A little miffed I replied, "Can I help it if postal rates go up?"

Feeling he had somehow come out ahead, Henry gave me a big-hearted smile.

He really shouldn't have. He knows what that does to me! I expanded to the point of mounting a soapbox myself. "Out of perhaps a hundred cards we receive each year, I always pick five to compete for the card of the year."

"What are the qualifications for nomination?"

"There is only one. It must proclaim in some way:

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

"Have you last year's card?"

"Under glass," I said pointing to my glass-top desk.

"Read it to me and give me the name of the sender and author."

"The sender was also the authoress, Frances Ervin. The card came from Gil and Frances in Massachusetts." I read:

"Though Satellites circle from afar,

Still brighter shines the Bethlehem star.

'Peace on Earth, Good will to men,'

The glorious greeting once again

Rings out to challenge one and all.

May fearful nations heed the call,

And deep in very heart abide

True brotherhood this Christmastide."

Henry nodded his approval. He looked at the poem thoughtfully for a long moment and then, as if every necessary thing had been said on the subject of Christmas cards that could or should be said, he completely changed the subject.

"What do you nominate as your most exciting flower of the year?"

"Are vines included?"

"Certainly."

"Then it is 'The Rosa-de-Montana.'"

"Yellow?"

"No ——— a pink to end all pinks. The blossom looks like wild sweet pea. Its color pink — in fact the whole thing — is more delicate than the sweet pea. It gives you the feeling of floating. I arranged it pinwheel-like in a fourteen inch white dish. The center of the dish held six small pale-pink lilies. The result was 'Enchantment in a Dish.'"

"What are its growing habits?"

"It grows profusely, high, wide and handsome on the west wall of my friend's garden. Nothing discourages it." Wise's Garden Encyclopedia says: 'Rosa-de-Montana. A common name for *Antigonon leptopus*, a Mexican climbing plant with bright pink flowers borne in racemes.'"

"What else can you, yourself, tell me about it?"

"Nothing."

Henry shrugged, "Well, I say take care of the peonies and the dahlias will take care of themselves."

Once again we laughed together, and as Henry resumed his activities I heard him using strong words about the address book.

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# Garden Chores

BY A "PINCH-HITTER" FOR ADA PERRY

Let's be practical about the pines. It's good to talk about them, in the holiday season, because lots of folks buy small live trees for Christmas, and this is also the right time to plant them out. This arid region needs more of these evergreens. We need them for beauty in the garden; or as silhouettes against the blue of bay and ocean. They are almost a "must" for any landscape work, from formal to Japanese. And think how pretty the boughs and their cones look in the house, old-time like, behind a picture, or in wreaths, or just for that piney smell and wonderful glow in the fireplace. We need pines badly to help the soil. The fallen needles make a good-looking ground cover; they act as a mulch to conserve moisture, and, as they decompose, they increase the acidity of our alkaline soil.

Many pines will stand drought and wind, like the picturesque Torrey Pines at our new State Park. When you see them there, bear in mind that they are nature's product, not man's. Deep soil, water and food will make this variety a Goliath in the pine family. Its fast growth will dwarf an average garden. The same goes for that rich green giant, the Monterey Pine. Another "hurry-upper" is the Canary Island Pine, which



loses its lower branches as it ages. Its handsome form, and long, gray-green needles just dare you to buy it, but when those same needles, and many cones, drop, it is not a lawn man's pet. Give it lots of space, with shrubs beneath. *Pinus thunbergi*, the Japanese Black Pine, is a good green, vigorous and sprawly, often used for Bonsais. The new tip growth looks like a cluster of white candles. The Austrian Pine is a close cousin, but slower growing. Both need smart and frequent pruning. The Cluster Pine, *P. pinaster*, is just so-so when young, but it develops a fine contour in the sea air. Good in La Jolla. The Italian Stone Pine, *P. pinea*, will stand abuse. Its heavy branches take on a rugged dark beauty with age, —so surprising after the bluish, almost fragile needles of its "kit-ten" stage. When you buy a little tree, don't fail to check its full-grown look.\*

Deodars have graceful drooping branches, with short, light green needles. There are some beauties in the nurseries, all boxed up, ready for patio or Christmas use, or both. They can be grown in these containers for several years before they are put in the ground. The lower limbs of these cedars have a handsome habit of hugging the ground, and should be encouraged to do that — never

lopped off to make a trunk. When happiest, they are real space-grabbers. The twigs and leaves on the slow, but large-growing Atlas Cedar are short and stiff, an all-over habit.

Spruces are handsome. I couldn't resist one, only a foot high, with needles less than half-an-inch long, called the Alberta Spruce. It will be mighty handsome as a miniature Christmas tree, with some of those tiny new fire-fly lights. The spicy needles will scent the whole house. It is a slow grower in the ground. The Norway Spruce, *Picea abies (excelsa)*, is bushy, with half-inch needles and small cones—another fine tub plant for the holidays, but tall, when planted out. I find it does need an acid soil, plenty of water, and part shade.

I was so pleased when we received some new redwood boxes in convenient sizes of 14, 16, and 18 inches, smaller at their bases. They are bolted together, instead of nailed, and the bottoms are also loose, all of which should solve the problem of easy transfer, when a plant outgrows its space.

Get ready for a big crop of roses next spring, by withholding fertilizer, watering less, and you might even try allowing some seed to set, to aid dormancy. All bare-root stock appears in January, so keep posted, for both roses and trees. What can you say to a customer who demands an apricot tree in March? Most frustrating!

\* See article on the Aleppo Pine, by the "Tree Man", on page 59.

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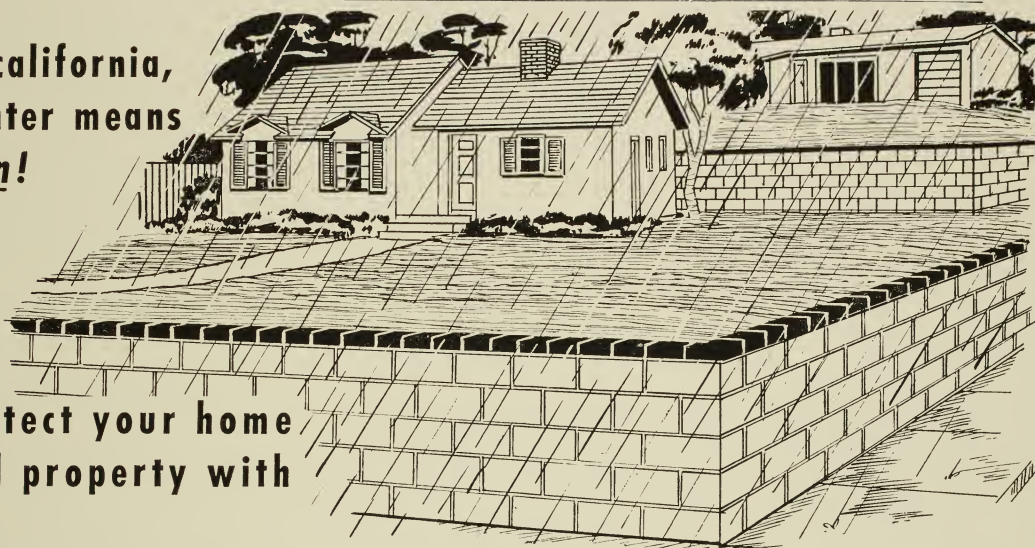
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